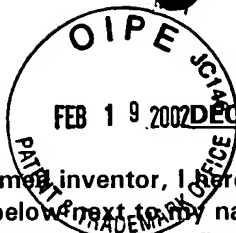


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DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that: My residence, post-office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe that I am an original, first, and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

PALLET HANDLING METHOD AND APPARATUS

the specification of which was filed 3 December 2001 as application 10/012,198.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 USC 119 of any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application

Country	Number	Filing Date	Priority claimed
Great Britain	0029530.3	4 December 2000	Yes

I hereby appoint as attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business connected therewith:

Herbert Dubno, Reg. 19,752; Andrew Wilford, Reg. 26,597; Jonathan Myers, Reg. 26,963 and each of them individually.

Address all correspondence to:

The Firm of Karl F. Ross, P.C.
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5676 Riverdale Avenue, Box 900
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(718) 884-6600

Direct all telephone calls to:

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 USC 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of first inventor: Alan Christopher John WORREL

Inventor's signature

Date: 25 JANUARY 2002

Residence: Northampton NN4 9SQ, Great Britain

Citizen of Great Britain

Post-office Address: 18 Ringway, Briar Hill, Northampton NN4 9SQ, Great Britain

Full name of second inventor:

Christopher Brian WATTS

Inventor's signature

Date: 21st JAN 2002

Residence: Andover, Hampshire SP10 3LQ, Great Britain

Citizen of Great Britain

Post-office Address: 3 The Laurels, Charlton Road, Andover, Hampshire SP10 3LQ, Great Britain

Full name of third inventor: Gary ROGERS-MITCHELL

Inventor's signature [Signature] Date: 29 JAN 2002

Residence: **Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 3QU, Great Britain**

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Post-office Address: **40 Turner Close, Black Dam, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 3QU, Great Britain**

Full name of fourth inventor: Simon Philip SCOTT

Inventor's signature [Signature] Date: 30TH JANUARY 2002

Residence: **Milton Keynes MK7 7LN, Great Britain**

Citizen of Great Britain

Post-office Address: **92 Pettingrew Close, Walnut Tree, Milton Keynes MK7 7LN, Great Britain**

Full name of fifth inventor: Brian Edward NEWIN

Inventor's signature [Signature] Date: 29TH JANUARY 2002

Residence: **Hampshire RG22 6EY, Great Britain**

Citizen of Great Britain

Post-office Address: **197 Western Way, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG22 6EY, Great Britain**

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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor Alan Christopher John WORREL et al
Patent App. 10/012,198
Filed 3 December 2001
For PALLET HANDLING METHOD AND APPARATUS
Art Unit Not known
Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

STATEMENT AS TO REPRESENTATION

With respect to the above-identified application, the undersigned hereby authorizes the United States Attorneys and Agents named in the Declaration accompanying the application or in any Declaration subsequently filed in the application to expect and follow instructions from:

Hemmerich Müller Grosse
Pollmeier Valentin Gihlske
Hammerstrasse 2
D-57072 Siegen
Germany

for any action to be taken in the United States Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the above-mentioned United States Attorneys or Agents and the undersigned. In the event of change in the person or persons from whom instructions may be taken, the above-mentioned United States Attorneys or Agents named in such Declaration will be so notified by the undersigned.

Date: 25 JANUARY 2002
21st JAN 2002

Date: 21/01/02

Date: 29 JAN 2002

Date: 30th JANUARY 2002

Date: B. E. Newin
29th JANUARY 2002

Signed: [Signature]
Alan Christopher John WORREL

Signed: [Signature]
Christopher Brian WATTS

Signed: [Signature]
Gary ROGERS-MITCHELL

Signed: [Signature]
Simon Philip SCOTT

Signed: [Signature]
Brian Edward NEWIN